IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 23 and ending on page 4, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

In 1989, it was discovered that intravenous, intramuscular or subcutaneous delivery of hyaluronic acid could reduce the pain of arthritis (U.S. Pat. No. 4,808,576 by Schultz et al) when the hyaluronic acid was delivered remote to the site of the arthritis (not into the joint). This patent specifically states that the hyaluronic acid is administered remote to the site and that the hyaluronic acid must be of high purity (>99% pure hyaluronic acid). Schultz et al. does not disclose or suggest the use of hyaluronic acid in combination with essential oils, use of other complex carbohydrate macromolecules, oral application or mucosal application. Schultz et al. specifically teaches away from use of low purity complex carbohydrates. By low purity is meant complex carbohydrates that would be considered food grade or cosmetic grade, which could be <98% pure and could contain such contaminants as endotoxins, lipoteichoic acids, proteins, nucleic acids, etc. The low purity hyaluronic acid or salt thereof useful in the present invention (<98% pure hyaluronic acid) can be of a cosmetic grade or food grade which can contain up to 5% contaminants. Such

material would not pass the owl monkey eye test used to select high purity hyaluronic acids and salts thereof (described by Balazs in U.S. Pat. No. 4.141.973) in that it would produce an inflammatory response (e.g. inflammatory reaction) in the eye. It also would not pass the horse joint injection test described by Schultz et al (U.S. Pat. No. 4,808,576). However, it does not produce a reaction when applied to the skin or mucous membranes of mammals including humans, dogs, cats, horses, cattle, swine, rabbits, guinea pigs and mice.